

Ruffner Cabin
Daniel Boone Park
Route 60
Charleston
Kanawha County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-219

HABS
WVA,
20-CHAR,
5-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

RECORDS
FOLLOWS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
West Virginia	Kanawha	Charleston
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
Ruffner House		WV-219
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
Ruffner Cabin		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
Daniel Boone Park, Route 60, Charleston, West Virginia		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
ca. 1803, 1827, 1969	Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
The structure is reputed to have been built in 1803 as a dwelling for Joseph Ruffner and to have been altered and elaborated into a clapboarded house in 1827 for Joel Ruffner. The property was called Rosedale at that time. The house is said to be the oldest extant dwelling in Kanawha County. Its original site was on Kanawha Boulevard in Charleston.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
Vernacular log building		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Dovetailed squared log bearing walls		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
Information not supplied		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
Dovetailed squared log walls. Infill appears to be cement, an inappropriate modern material. The board-and-batten gables do not accord with a presumptive date of 1803 and are incompatible restorations. Fieldstone chimneys are not the original ones.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
Information not supplied		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
House was dismantled on original site, and logs were stored and then re-erected in 1969 on present site in a somewhat conjectural reconstruction attempting to restore the original appearance for the National Society of Colonial Dames of America Resident in West Virginia.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
Condition appears to be good. House is used as a historical exhibit.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
When the house was dismantled, the logs were sequentially numbered for re-erection.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
Telephone interview with Rodney S. Collins, West Virginia Department of Culture and History, The Cultural Center, Capitol Complex, Charleston, West Virginia 25305, February 1981		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION		DATE
Derys Peter Myers, Architectural Historian, Historic American Buildings Survey		02/10/81

ADDENDUM TO:
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(Daniel Boone Park)
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20001